

# Fun Facts: Women's History Month

## TEACHING GUIDE

### About Fun Facts

Fun Facts are student-friendly handouts that tie Census Bureau statistics to holidays, anniversaries, and other observances. These fact sheets—originally created for teachers to use in classrooms—are easily adapted for use at home to keep kids entertained and learning. They cover different subjects and are designed to be used at various grade levels.

### Using Women's History Month Fun Facts in the Classroom or at Home

Our Women's History Month Fun Facts handout includes many activities for students to do with their teacher in class or their parents/caregivers at home. They're fun and easy to use. The first step: Give students time to read and digest the information in the handout before discussing it. Next: Try out some of these grade-appropriate activities.

### Any Grade Level

#### Potential discussion questions include:

- What section of the handout interested you the most and why?
- Were you surprised there were more women than men at age 85 and older?
- What gains do you predict women will make in the next ten years?

**Civic Duty.** The Ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution paved the way for a future where women had the right to vote. Students can learn more about the Ratification of the 19th Amendment by viewing census data and records at <[www.census.gov/history/www/homepage\\_archive/2020/august\\_2020.html](http://www.census.gov/history/www/homepage_archive/2020/august_2020.html)>

**Discussion Question:** Why do you think more women registered and participated in voting in 2020?

**Making Herstory: Celebrating Women's History Month Kahoot! game.** March is Women's History Month! This observance traces its roots back to 1857, when women in New York City staged a protest over poor working conditions. Celebrate the advances women have made since then and test your students' knowledge about Census Bureau statistics highlighting American women today like the number of women-owned businesses and the share of women with a bachelor's degree in the United States. Play it here: <<https://create.kahoot.it/details/172658d1-b3ef-4a63-95df-7ba7945cd7a0>>



## Elementary School Level

**Who's My Age?** The median age of Americans was 38.8, and the median age of females in the United States was 39.9 in 2021. Using the Census Bureau's State Facts for Students tool at [www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sis/resources/data-tools/state-facts.html](https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sis/resources/data-tools/state-facts.html), students can research the number of boys and girls in their state who were ages 8 to 14 when the stats were collected – and compare their state's data with that of neighboring states. Teachers can assist younger students with gathering the data.

**News Report.** Have students use information from the fact sheets to pretend they are news anchors sharing information on Women in STEM careers in 2030. How do you think representation will change over the decade?

## Middle School Level

**Population by State.** Have students review visualizations of key demographic trends from the 2021 Vintage Population Estimates on our state profile pages at [www.census.gov/library/visualizations/interactive/vintage-2021-population-estimates.html](https://www.census.gov/library/visualizations/interactive/vintage-2021-population-estimates.html) to uncover the most recent data for their state and county. Then have them compare demographic data on race, origin, age, sex, and more between neighboring states. Have students discuss with a partner what surprised them the most about their findings.

**Free Writing.** Have students write about an important woman in their life. Who is she? What makes her special to you? How has she inspired you to be the person you are? How does she inspire you to grow? Students can share with the class and the special women in their lives.

## High School Level

**Exploring Trends in Marriage Data.** The median age at first marriage has risen for both men and women. In 1970, the median age at first marriage was 23.2 years for men, and 20.8 years for women. Fifty years later, those figures climbed to 30.5 years and 28.1 years, respectively. Have students give educated guesses as to why new generations are getting married later?

**Wage Equality.** The gender pay gap has narrowed since the signing of the Equal Pay Act of 1963; women earned \$.84 for every dollar a man earned in 2021. Use this visualization to discuss the difference of the gender pay gaps within and across different occupations. [www.census.gov/library/visualizations/interactive/gender-pay-gap.html](https://www.census.gov/library/visualizations/interactive/gender-pay-gap.html)